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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/908,947	07/18/2001	Michael Kirkwood	50325-0529 (3858)	1924

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EXAMINER

HAMILTON, MONPLAISIR G

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2172

DATE MAILED: 10/23/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/908,947

Applicant(s)

KIRKWOOD ET AL. 

Examiner

Monplaisir G Hamilton

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 July 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-42 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-42 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 July 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-42 are pending.

Priority

2. Applicant's claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) is acknowledged.

Information Disclosure Statement

3. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 2/11/02 is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Oath/Declaration

4. The oath or declaration is defective. A new oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.67(a) identifying this application by application number and filing date is required. See MPEP §§ 602.01 and 602.02.

The oath or declaration is defective because:

Non-initialed and/or non-dated alterations have been made to the oath or declaration. See 37 CFR 1.52(c).

Claim Objections

5. Claim 3 is objected to because of the following informalities: “the particular name” lacks antecedent basis examiner suggests replacing particular with first. Appropriate correction is required.

Claims 1 and 42 are objected to because of the following informalities: “hey are not within in the technological arts, software per se. Examiner suggest replacing “method” with computer-implemented method. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 1-42 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by US 6,453,312 issued to Goiffon et al, herein referred to as Goiffon.

Referring to Claims 1, 12, and 22:

Goiffon discloses a method of responding to a request for data about an enterprise (col 5, lines 20-25), the method comprising the steps of:

storing a plurality of names for a single entity associated with the enterprise as a first plurality of corresponding concepts in a database of concepts and relationships among concepts (col 4, lines 3-15), which database describes a plurality of entities associated with the enterprise (col 4, lines 4-8; col 10, lines 15-20);

designating a first concept of the first plurality of corresponding concepts as a normative concept (col 11, line 55-60; col 12, lines 1-35);

receiving a request including data indicating a particular name of the plurality of names (col 14, lines 35-50); and

in response to receiving the request, sending a response including information associated in the database with the first concept (col 14, line 65- col 15, line 10; col 15, line 25-40).

Referring to Claim 32

Goiffon discloses a system for responding to a request for data about an enterprise, the system comprising:

a database of concepts and relationships among concepts describing a plurality of entities associated with the enterprise (col 4, lines 1-20; col 5, lines 1-10); and a processor configured to perform the steps (Fig. 1): of storing a plurality of names for a single entity associated with the enterprise as a first plurality of corresponding concepts in the database (col 4, lines 3-15),); indicating a first concept of the first plurality of corresponding concepts (col 4, line 15-25; col 11, line 55-60; col 12, lines 1-35); receiving a request including data indicating a particular name of the plurality of names (col 14, lines 35-50); and in response to receiving the request, sending a response including information associated in the database with the first concept (col 14, line 65- col 15, line 10; col 15, line 25-40).

Referring to Claims 2, 13, 23 and 33:

Goiffon discloses the limitations as discussed in Claims 1, 12, 22, and 32 above. Goiffon further discloses:

storing in the database a first relationship of a first relationship type, the first relationship defined for the first concept and an alternative concept of the first plurality of corresponding concepts (col 12, lines 1-35); and

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storing in the database a second relationship of a second relationship type between the first concept and a second concept not among the first plurality of corresponding concepts, wherein the second concept indicates the information included in the response (col 11, lines 50-60).

Referring to Claim 3, 14, 24 and 34:

Goiffon discloses the limitations as discussed in Claims 2, 13, 23 and 33 above. Goiffon further discloses:

the request does not include data indicating a first name corresponding to the first concept (Fig. 5; col 15, lines 1-40);

the particular name corresponds to a particular alternative concept of the first plurality of corresponding concepts (Fig. 5; col 16, lines 30-40); and

the database does not include a relationship defined for the second concept and the particular alternative concept (Fig 5; col 15, lines 28-33).

Referring to Claims 4, 15, 25 and 35:

Goiffon discloses the limitations as discussed in Claims 1, 12, 22, and 32 above. Goiffon further discloses, wherein the request does not include data indicating a first name corresponding to the first concept (Fig. 5; col 15, lines 1-40).

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Referring to Claims 5, 16, 26 and 36:

Goiffon discloses the limitations as discussed in Claims 1, 12, 22, and 32 above. Goiffon further discloses, wherein the plurality of names include at least one of a synonym for a first name corresponding to the first concept, an acronym for the first name, and a translation of the first name into a different language than a language of the first name (col 5, lines 15-25).

Referring to Claims 6, 17, 27 and 37:

Goiffon discloses the limitations as discussed in Claims 2, 13, 23 and 33 above. Goiffon further discloses, wherein the first relationship includes an attribute indicating the alternative concept is one of a synonym for the first concept, an acronym for the first concept, and a translation into a different language than a language of a first name corresponding to the first concept (col 5, lines 15-25; col 10, lines 15-20; col 11, lines 50-65; col 20, lines 55-65).

Referring to Claims 7, 18, 28 and 38:

Goiffon discloses the limitations as discussed in Claims 5, 16, 26 and 36 above. Goiffon further discloses, wherein a synonym for the first name includes a misspelling of the first name (col 13, line 60-68).

Referring to Claim 8:

Goiffon discloses the limitations as discussed in Claim 5 above. Goiffon further discloses, wherein a synonym for the first name comprises an acronym of the first concept or a

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translation into a different language than a language of a first name corresponding to the first concept (col 13, lines 60-68).

Referring to Claim 9, 19, 29 and 39:

Goiffon discloses the limitations as discussed in Claims 1, 12, 22 and 32 above. Goiffon further discloses, further comprising the step of adding a name to the plurality of names based on the data included in the request (col 21, lines 40-50; col 23, lines 55-67).

Referring to Claims 10, 20, 30 and 40:

Goiffon discloses the limitations as discussed in Claims 1, 12, 22 and 32 above. Goiffon further discloses, wherein the entities include at least one of a set of products of the enterprise, a set of services of the enterprise and a set of activities of the enterprise (col 5, lines 15-25; col 23, lines 15-30; col 25, lines 60-68).

Referring to Claims 11, 21, 31 and 41:

Goiffon discloses the limitations as discussed in Claim 10, 20, 30 and 40 above. Goiffon further discloses, wherein the set of activities of the enterprise include at least one of administration, research, marketing, joint ventures and documentation (col 5, lines 15-25).

Referring to Claim 42:

Goiffon discloses a method of responding to a request for data about an enterprise using a data store that comprises a stored plurality of names for a single entity associated with the

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enterprise (col 4, lines 1-25; col 5, lines 3-20), a first plurality of corresponding concepts in a database of concepts and relationships among concepts (col 4, lines 5-20), which database describes a plurality of entities associated with the enterprise, and wherein a first concept of the first plurality of corresponding concepts is identified as a normative concept (col 23, lines 10-30), the method comprising the computer-implemented steps of:

receiving a request including data indicating a particular name of the plurality of names (col 14, lines 35-50); and in response to receiving the request, sending a response including information associated in the database with the first concept (Fig. 5; col 14, line 65- col 15, line 10; col 15, line 25-40).

Prior Art

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US 5644740 issued to Yamazaki, Naoko et al. An information storage and retrieval system which permits storage of fact information represented in terms of conceptual concepts expressing things and relational concepts expressing relations there between on a knowledge base, easy inputting and correction of the fact information, easy browsing and retrieval of the fact information and display of the fact information with effective use of a limited view area, and also to provide a display method used in the information storage and retrieval system. The system includes a device for inputting fact information with respect to a specific relational concept according to a template pattern by using a multi-window function on the basis of information obtained from a concept dictionary for defining hierarchical relations between

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concepts and a grammar rule for defining semantic structures of cases and concepts allowed to be used in the cases; a device for storage and retrieval of fact information; and a device for displaying fact information in a fact window and displaying a hierarchy of conceptual concepts and relational concepts in a node tree window.

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Monplaisir G Hamilton whose telephone number is 1703-305-5116. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (8:00 am - 4:30 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Y Vu can be reached on 1703-305-4393. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 1703-305-3900.

Monplaisir Hamilton


KIM VU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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